

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 152080  
ORIGIN ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 HA-02 NSCE-00 INR-05 CIAE-00  
NSAE-00 SP-02 L-01 PA-01 PM-03 DODE-00 INRE-00  
SSO-00 /039 R

DRAFTED BY ARA:GLISTER/ARA/CAR:GDESANTILLANA:MD  
APPROVED BY ARA:SASHELTON  
ARA/CAR:ACHEWITT

-----075256 151534Z /47

O 151451Z JUN 78  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 152080

LIMDIS FOR THE AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PEPR, DR

SUBJECT: DOMINICAN ELECTIONS

REF: (A) SANTO DOMINGO 3237; (B) STATE 143061

1. THE DEPARTMENT HAS FOLLOWED WITH CONCERN THE CONTINUING REFORMIST PARTY CAMPAIGN CHALLENGING THE RESULTS OF MAY 16 ELECTIONS ON BASIS OF ALLEGED FRAUD AND CALLING FOR NEW OR "COMPLEMENTARY" ELECTIONS. WHILE THE PR IS WITHIN ITS LEGAL RIGHTS TO CHALLENGE ELECTION RESULTS, WE CANNOT BE CONFIDENT THAT THE CENTRAL ELECTION BOARD WILL JUDGE THE PR CHALLENGES SOLELY ON THEIR MERITS. AS EMBASSY NOTES, THE JCE IS MADE UP OF BALAGUER APPOINTEES AND THE JCE HAS APPARENTLY SEEN A GRADUAL EROSION OF ITS POWER VIS-A-VIS THE REFORMIST ONSLAUGHT.

CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 STATE 152080

2. PROVIDED YOU CONCUR, WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE HELPFUL FOR YOU TO SEEK AN APPOINTMENT WITH BALAGUER IN ORDER TO (A) ELICIT HIS VIEWS ON THE PR CHALLENGES TO THE MAY 16 ELECTION RESULTS AND CALLS FOR A NEW COMPLEMENTARY ELECTION; AND (B) URGE HIM TO ENSURE IMPROPER PRESSURES ARE NOT BROUGHT TO BEAR ON JCE BY ANY OF HIS OVER-ZEALOUS SUPPORTERS.

3. IN MAKING THIS APPROACH, YOU MAY DRAW ON THE FOLLOWING POINTS:

(A) YOU MAY COMMEND BALAGUER FOR HIS GREAT STATESMANSHIP AND CONTRIBUTIONS TO DEMOCRACY.

(B) WE ARE PUZZLED AND CONCERNED BY CONTINUING EFFORTS WHICH APPEAR AIMED AT UNDERMINING THE AUTHORITY OF THE JCE AND AT SUBORNING THE OUTCOME OF THE MAY 16 ELECTIONS.

(C) AFTER PRESIDENT BALAGUER'S STATEMENT IN HIS ADDRESS OF MAY 18 THAT THE ELECTIONS WERE CLEAN, HIS CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE TO ANTONIO GUZMAN, AND THE REPORT OF THE OAS OBSERVERS INVITED BY BALAGUER, SUCH ACTIONS ARE CERTAIN TO STIMULATE CONSIDERABLE CONSTERNATION, BOTH IN THE DR AND OVERSEAS. THIS WOULD BE EXTREMELY HARMFUL TO BALAGUER'S REPUTATION AND PLACE IN DR HISTORY.

(D) WE BELIEVE PRESIDENT BALAGUER'S ROLE IN ENSURING THAT THE DECISIONS OF THE JCE WILL BE IMPARTIAL AND OBJECTIVE AND IN ENSURING THE SUCCESS OF DEMOCRACY IN HIS COUNTRY WILL CONTINUE TO BE DECISIVE. CHRISTOPHER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS, ALLEGATIONS, ELECTION FRAUD, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Decaption Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014